

Dear Tribal Council persons and Tribal members:

I am voicing my objection to the current way of appointing our next council person for the empty council seat.

I believe it should go to the next highest vote, not by appointment of our Tribal chairman. This is unfair to the Tribal members who voted and shows disrespect for the Tribal members.

It is my opinion that our Tribal Constitution needs to be amended to read in the absence of a Tribal Council person, the next highest person with votes should be appointed or given the opportunity to accept or decline the role of Tribal Council representative. In the event the second runner-up should decline, then a re-vote of the General Tribal membership should be enforced. That would be fair to all involved. And the votes of the General Tribal membership would be respected as they should be.

I feel that currently our (Tribal members) opinions are not being respected by the majority of our council members and we are living under a dictatorship. This is wrong and will hopefully change in the near future.

Why not send out a survey and ask the Tribal members how they feel about this?

Should the chairman have the right to appoint a council person?

Should the Tribal membership vote and be the ones to appoint the next council person?

Should the empty council seat go to the next highest vote?

Sincerely,

Shelley M. UpChurch



To the editor:

I would like to request a retraction of a false statement in the next *Siletz News*. Kay Steele's letter in the July issue of *Siletz News* contained an untrue statement. It appears on page 22, second paragraph, third sentence, which says:

"Three Tribal members in the Portland Area Office have returned to drugs, drinking or suffering from severe depression."

This statement is not true. Since it appeared in *Siletz News*, our office has received multiple calls from Tribal members asking which of the staff here have returned to drugs, etc.

I believe the writer meant to say that, "Three Tribal members living in the Portland area have ..."

Sherry Addis

Portland Area Office Supervisor

To the editor:

I just got my Tribal paper and feel the need to respond to a couple of things.

First of all, I would suggest that if people want to keep up on Tribal issues, they attend council meetings and see/hear firsthand what is going on ... hear what Dee, Bud, Robert, etc., etc., say straight from their own lips! Those of you who "think" you are hearing the truth on *siletz.net* are sadly mistaken. Lynette picks and chooses whose postings she uses and spreads her own propaganda on that website. My comments are never posted on there anymore. It appears that if you disagree with her or her supporters your voice will not be heard on "her" website. "Until then you can read the rest of the story at *www.siletz.net* ..." should read, "Until then you can read Lynette's version of the story ..."

As far as people being sued for libel and slander – well, what do you expect? You cannot go around spreading lies about people and not expect to have consequences! I keep hoping that Dee would sue all the people who slander her! But fortunately for them, she doesn't lower herself to their level by giving their childish antics any credence.

As far as getting info from council in "a timely manner ..." – I have served on many different types of committees, boards, etc. and minutes are never released until they are gone over and approved by the committee or board! And our Tribal Council is no different.

As for the remark by the Tribal Court judge? I read that letter a couple of times (from Delores Riding In) and it seems clear that the judge was trying to say he was not in charge of things. Who is a person "in charge?" A "chief" is in charge. I don't see how that is a racial remark?!

Cindy Jackson



To the editor:

I'd like to take this opportunity to express a sincere and heartfelt thank you to a few members of the staff at the Siletz Salem Area Office.

To Cecilia Tolentino and Norma Jimenez – Thank you for assisting me in filling out my application for employment at the City of Salem. It was no easy task as I have a very questionable employment history. I have also had substance abuse issues.

Thanks to Cecilia and Norma's expertise, we forged ahead and fashioned up an application that was well-received by the City of Salem. I might add that I am also computer illiterate, so that did not make the task any easier!

Big thanks to Sharmon Cook-Wright, my SSP-477 case worker. Sharmon stepped in and was patient, vigilant and efficient in the execution of her duties. Sharmon was available and accessible by returning telephone calls in a timely manner and by answering any question that arose.

And last but not least to the supervisor of the Salem Area Office, Beverly Owen. Beverly has compiled a group of employees who believe in the spirit of the office to help the clients, even when it may not be their described duties of employment.

All too often in the Native American world we try to accentuate the differences about us, let personality and Tribal difference diminish who we are as the descendants of the first people of this great land. I can honestly say that the people I have named above are living examples of what our grandmothers and grandfathers would be proud of.

It was with these people's exceptional effort that I secured a seasonal position with the City of Salem.

So in closing, thank you Cecilia, Norma, Sharmon and Bev.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Luna-Windels
Gros Ventre Nation
Fort Belnap, Montana



Happy 6th Birthday, Jon C.

Love – Daddy, Mom, Zak, Kiesha, Anita, Leeann and Brian

Happy Birthday to my boy, Jon Duarte!

Love, your dog Dinky

Happy 7th Birthday, Leeann Rose. With lots of luck, you will have many more.

Love you very much, your Daddy, Mom, Zak, Kiesha, Anita, Jon and Brian

Happy 7th Birthday, Stinks. I love you lots.

Aunt Selina, Cameron and Mateas

Happy 2nd Anniversary to Dan and Rheanna Scheck on Aug. 11.

Love, Mom, Randy, Tylan, Billy Dee and Donna

Congratulations to Tylan Williams for graduating from the eighth grade. Can't believe you are getting ready to start high school.

Love, Mom, Randy, Billy Dee and Donna

You Dan, are my love, my soul mate and my friend. I can't believe it has already been two years on Aug. 11. Happy Anniversary to us and many more to come.

Rheanna

To our beautiful daughter, Tenaya Rosemarie Cordova – Happy 1st Birthday. You are truly God's blessing to us. May all your hopes and dreams come true.

Love always, Momma and Daddy

Happy Birthday to Wendy on Aug. 30, BJ on Aug. 8 and Tasha on Aug. 20.

Love, Rory

Happy 13th Birthday to Daniel Regan! Wow, son, how time flies when you're having fun! You're a teen-ager now, can't believe it! Wishing you the best birthday ever. AC/DC, here we come!

With love, your family

Happy Birthday to my most beautiful mother, Margo Hudson, on Aug. 8. We all love you and appreciate everything you do for us.

Love, your favorite daughter Maggie, Trevor, Madison and JD

Happy 9th Birthday to Ebyn Kash Jackson. From your little cousin Tre

To my awesome, handsome nephew, Ebyn Kash – Happy Birthday! Hope you have a fun day and get to do all the things you want!

Love, Auntie Elaine

Many, many thanks to Darcy and Sara for helping me out with my regalia and beading. Without your help, it would all just be talk and dreams! You ladies rock! Elaine

Happy 6th Birthday, Jon! You can hang with us anytime.

Love ya lots, Aunt Selina and Cameron

Happy Birthday to my buddy, Jon. Friends for life.

Your buddy, Mateas

Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Siletz News* and other tribal issues.

All letters must include the author's signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. *Siletz News* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks, or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Siletz News*, Tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of *Siletz News*.

Editor-in-Chief: Brenda Bremner
Editor: Diane Rodriguez
Assistant: Natasha Kavanaugh

Passages Policy



Submissions to Passages are limited to two 25-word items per person, plus one photo if desired. All birthday, anniversary and holiday wishes will appear in the Passages section. Items containing information on births, graduations, the Armed Services, weddings, engagements and deaths will appear in the Tribal Member News section.

Siletz News reserves the right to edit any submission for clarity and length. Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Please type or write legibly and submit via e-mail when possible.